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ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Advisory services in the field of human rights, including the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights

Report of the Secretary-General

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Introduction

1. The Commission on Human Rights, at its forty-seventh session, adopted resolution 1991/50 on advisory services in the field of human rights. In that resolution the Commission, after having taken note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/1991/55), welcomed the increasing number of requests from Governments for support and technical assistance in the field of human rights; reaffirmed that the programme of advisory services should continue to provide practical assistance in the implementation of international conventions on human rights to those States which indicated a need for such assistance; recommended to the Secretary-General that the provision of expert assistance and activities to assist Governments in the development of the necessary infrastructure to meet international human rights standards should continue to increase; and requested the Secretary-General to provide urgently more human and financial resources for the enlargement of advisory services, particularly from section 24 of the regular budget concerning technical cooperation, in order to meet the increased demand on this important instrument intended to invigorate the human rights spirit in the world. The Commission also requested the Secretary-General: to pursue his efforts for a medium-term plan for advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights; to intensify coordination within the United Nations system for providing advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights; to explore yet further the possibilities offered by cooperation between the Centre for Human Rights and specialized bodies of the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross, in the development of strategies for the setting up or the strengthening of national and regional infrastructures for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the planning, execution and evaluation of specific projects. The Commission welcomed the efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure close coordination between the activities of the regular programme of advisory services and those of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights and, at the same time, to make a clear distinction between activities financed under the regular budget and projects financed under the Voluntary Fund.

2. In the same resolution, the Commission noted with appreciation the cooperation between the Centre for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme and encouraged the leadership of both organizations to further enhance coordination and cooperation between them; invited competent United Nations bodies, such as the committees set up under the International Covenants on Human Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee against Torture and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to make suggestions and proposals for the implementation of advisory services; and requested its special rapporteurs and representatives, as well as the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, to inform Governments, whenever appropriate, of the possibility of availing themselves of the services provided for under the programme of advisory services and to include in their recommendations, whenever appropriate, proposals for specific projects to be realized under the programme of advisory services.

3. At the same session, the Commission also adopted resolution 1991/49 on the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights. In that resolution, the Commission: emphasized that the objective of the Voluntary Fund was to provide financial support for international cooperation aiming at building up and strengthening national and regional institutions and infrastructure which would have a long-term impact on improved implementation of international conventions and other international instruments on human rights promulgated by the United Nations, the specialized agencies or regional organizations; requested the Secretary-General to continue to elaborate comprehensive programmes of advisory services and technical cooperation, maintaining a clear distinction between technical cooperation projects financed under the Voluntary Fund and other activities like seminars, fellowships and dissemination of documentation to be financed under the regular budget; and encouraged the Secretary-General and the Centre for Human Rights to participate actively in the formulation of projects regarding technical cooperation in the field of human rights, in close consultation with Governments concerned, taking into account relevant suggestions made by human rights treaty bodies, special rapporteurs and non-governmental organizations, to pay due attention to the particular needs of developing countries in all regions and to explore fully the possibilities offered by the cooperation of the relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations system with the Centre for Human Rights. The Commission also requested the Secretary-General to bring regularly to the attention of all Governments and of the competent human rights organs the possibilities that exist under the Voluntary Fund of providing advisory services and technical assistance at their request, and to guarantee transparency of the criteria applied and of the rules of procedure to be followed in carrying out technical cooperation in the field of human rights. In the same resolution, the Commission encouraged Governments interested in technical cooperation in the field of human rights to make use of the Voluntary Fund and to seek contact and to cooperate with non-governmental human rights organizations in formulating and implementing programmes under the Voluntary Fund.

4. At the same session, the Commission also adopted the following resolutions on the programme of advisory services and technical assistance: (i) resolution 1991/52 on assistance to Guatemala in the field of human rights; (ii) resolution 1991/77 on the situation of human rights in Haiti; and (iii) resolution 1991/80 on the situation of human rights in Equatorial Guinea. Information on the implementation of these resolutions is contained, respectively, in documents E/CN.4/1992/5, E/CN.4/1992/50, E/CN.4/1992/51 and in paragraphs 75 to 80 of the present document.

5. It may also be recalled that the Commission emphasized the possibilities of the programme of advisory services and technical assistance in a number of resolutions, inter alia resolution 1991/16 on the status of the International Covenants on Human Rights, resolution 1991/18 on the question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights, resolution 1991/30 on the World Conference on Human Rights, resolution 1991/38 on the report of the Special Rapporteur on Torture and resolution 1991/69 on the situation of human rights in Romania. It may be pointed out that since 1988 resolutions adopted by the Commission relating to advisory services and technical assistance have increasingly been reinforced by resolutions adopted by other United Nations policy-making bodies in the sphere of human rights.

6. In paragraph 16 of resolution 1991/50, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to submit a report at its forty-eighth session on the progress made in the implementation of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights. In paragraph 14 of resolution 1991/49, the Commission also requested the Secretary-General to report annually to it on the operation and administration of the Voluntary Fund in a distinct part of his annual report on advisory services in the field of human rights. The present report is submitted pursuant to these two Commission resolutions.

I. POLICY AND PRACTICE

A. Mandates

7. The United Nations programme of advisory services in the field of human rights was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 926 (X) of 14 December 1955, authorizing the Secretary-General to make provision at the request of Governments and with the cooperation of the specialized agencies, where appropriate, for the following forms of assistance with respect to the field of human rights: (i) advisory services of experts; (ii) fellowships and scholarships; and (iii) seminars. Regional and national training courses were added in 1967 and 1986 respectively.

8. The programme of advisory services and technical assistance under the regular budget complements the other sectors of the United Nations human rights programme. In the context of this overall programme, the aims of the programme of advisory services and technical assistance are described in the medium-term plan presented to the Commission in 1988. In that year, the Commission endorsed the Secretary-General's outline for a medium-term plan for advisory services and technical assistance (E/CN.4/1988/40). This medium-term plan aimed at:

(a) Furthering knowledge and understanding of international human rights standards and their normative content, with a view to promoting their widest application;

(b) Facilitating the implementation of international human rights; and

(c) Providing technical assistance to Governments in the establishment and development of national infrastructures for the promotion and protection of internationally recognized human rights norms.

9. The programme of advisory services and technical assistance is connected to the other sectors of the United Nations human rights programme. Advisory services and technical cooperation activities assist Governments and may be a complement to, but never a substitute for, the monitoring and investigating activities of the human rights programme. As emphasized in previous reports of the Secretary-General on the subject, the provision of advisory services and technical assistance does not in any way reduce a Government's responsibility or accountability in human rights situations and, whenever applicable, would not exempt it from scrutiny through the various procedures established by the United Nations. Indeed, action by special rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights also takes place parallel to projects of advisory services and technical asssistance.

10. The Voluntary Fund for Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights was established by the Secretary-General on 16 November 1987 pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/38 and Economic and Social Council decision 1987/147, with the objective of providing additional financial support for practical activities focused on the implementation of international conventions and other international instruments on human rights promulgated by the United Nations, its specialized agencies or regional organizations.

11. Based on relevant Commission on Human Rights resolutions, practical activities to be financed by the Voluntary Fund include:

(a) Support for international cooperation aimed at building up and strengthening national and regional institutions and infrastructures which will have a long-term impact on improved implementation of international conventions and other international instruments on human rights promulgated by the United Nations, the specialized agencies or regional organizations (resolution 1991/49, para. 4);

(b) Expert and technical assistance to Governments with a view to creating and developing the necessary infrastructures to meet international human rights standards (resolution 1990/59, para. 5);

(c) Projects and programmes than can play a catalytic role in the practical realization of internationally recognized human rights standards (resolution 1990/59, para. 7);

12. The Secretary-General informs Member States regularly of the possibilities offered by the United Nations, in particular under the Voluntary Fund, for providing advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights to Governments at their request, most recently, in accordance with Commission resolutions 1991/49 and 1991/50. In this context, the Commission in its resolution 1991/49, encouraged Governments to seek contact and cooperate with non-governmental human rights organizations in implementing programmes under the Voluntary Fund. To this end, a list containing examples of activities that can be provided by the United Nations under the programme of advisory services and technical assistance was communicated to Member States.

13. Furthermore, the General Assembly in its resolution 46/124 on national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, adopted on 17 December 1991, requested the Centre for Human Rights to continue its efforts, in order to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and regional and national institutions, particularly in the field of advisory services and technical assistance, public information and education in the fields of human rights and to establish, upon the request of States concerned, United Nations centres for human rights documentation and training, and to do so on the basis of established procedures for the use of available resources within the Voluntary Fund. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to respond favourably to requests from Member States for assistance in the establishment and strengthening of national institutions for the protection

and promotion of human rights as part of the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights, as well as national centres for human rights documentation and training.

B. Activities

14. In its overall programme of advisory services and technical assistance, the Centre focuses on projects aimed at building up or strengthening national infrastructures, at constitutional and legal reform, democratic development, dissemination of information, training activities and strengthening of the machinery for the administration of justice.

14.bis The Centre for Human Rights is also developing an extensive programme of information, education and training in the field of human rights for Cambodia. Although parts of the programme are carried out within the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), the Centre for Human Rights will develop projects and activities of a longer duration in cooperation with pertinent secretariat units and United Nations agencies. A special trust fund has been set up within the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights for the Cambodian human rights programme. A first contribution was made by Sweden and human rights expertise was made available by France at no cost to the United Nations.

15. The Centre has recently undertaken a number of projects relating to constitutional reform, institution building and democratic development. The relevance of this type of assistance is expected to grow in the near future, since there is today a more clear recognition of the relationship between human rights, popular participation and democracy on the one hand and sustainable development on the other hand. In this connection it is worth noting that, the Centre, in cooperation with the Government of Chile, organized in December 1991, in Santiago, a Latin American seminar on human rights, democracy, economic and social development, at which these issues were debated extensively. The process of democratization, especially tangible in Central and Eastern Europe, has been a prime focus for advisory services and technical assistance activities since 1988, when the Centre organized for the first time a human rights seminar in Moscow for the countries of Eastern and Central Europe. Forms of assistance in this area include the drafting of new democratic constitutions, the establishment of national human rights infrastructure, providing expert advice in connection with the holding of free and fair elections, and the elaboration of legislation, in conformity with international conventions on human rights. In the field of constitutional reform, the Centre has been actively involved in the support of the process of constitutional and legislative reform in Bulgaria, Mongolia, Paraguay, Romania and to a certain extent also in South Africa. Examples of institution building activities include strengthening the existing human rights infrastructure in Central Europe dealing with information and training and the setting up of human rights centres in Africa and Latin America. In the legal and technical aspects of democratic elections, assistance was provided to Albania, Bulgaria, Lesotho and Romania.

16. An important element in the overall strategy of improving the observance of human rights is the strengthening of the administration of justice. Indeed, individuals need the protection of a functioning legal system to be

able to enjoy their human rights. The establishment and maintenance of a well functioning legal protection system and a machinery for the peaceful resolution of disputes between individuals or groups is an essential component of the basic human rights infrastructure of society. Long-term efforts will be needed to establish a situation in which the rule of law guarantees individuals the enjoyment of all human rights. Such efforts, in order to be effective, will require substantial resources from Governments concerned, as well as contributions and assistance from multilateral development cooperation agencies. The Centre has the intention to develop its capacity to assist interested Governments in drawing up long-term plans for a well structured effort to improve the legal infrastructure for the protection of citizens. Such plans would contain a number of separate projects or programmes for which support from different donors could be sought. The amounts needed for the implementation of such projects and programmes would clearly at present be beyond the resources of the programme of advisory services and technical assistance. Neverthless, the Centre could already perform a useful role in elaborating models for such long-term plans, creating a network of individuals and institutions knowledgeable in the field, increasing cooperation between relevant United Nations organizations and in collecting and disseminating experience of realistic and cost-effective measures to enhance legal protection and the rule of law.

17. In many international human rights instruments reference is made to technical assistance as one of the means to achieve the rights recognized in those instruments. For example, in accordance with article 22 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, States parties have the opportunity to identify in their reports particular needs they may have for technical assistance. The Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1991/18 endorsed the views of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights that in the context of the advisory services and technical assistance programmes, a series of national workshops should be organized to develop a better understanding of the Covenant. In accordance with article 45, paragraph (b) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which entered into force on 2 September 1991, the Committee on the Rights of the Child shall transmit, as it may consider appropriate, to the specialized agencies, the United Nations Children's Fund and other competent bodies, any reports from States parties that contain a request, or indicate a need, for technical advice or assistance, along with the Committee's observations and suggestions, if any, on these requests or indications. In this context, the Committee on the Rights of the Child, in its Recommendation 2 (see CRC/C/7) requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to strengthen, in the context of the advisory services and technical assistance programme of the Centre for Human Rights, the training activities related to the implementation of the Convention and to consider organizing seminars and workshops at the national level for the purpose of training those involved in the preparation of State party reports to prepare those reports in accordance with the reporting guidelines. The Committee added that States parties should be informed about the nature of this programme for the implementation of the Convention.

18. In addition, other treaty bodies set up under international instruments continue in their consideration of reports submitted by States parties to draw the attention of Governments to the availability of technical assistance in connection with the implementation of the relevant human rights standards

and reporting obligations. On several occasions the Human Rights Committee and other treaty-established bodies recommended that Governments make use of the advisory services and technical assistance programme. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, for example, in its General Recommendation X (see A/46/18), stated as its opinion that training courses and workshops organized at the national level might prove of immeasurable assistance to officials responsible for the preparation of State party reports and requested the Secretary-General to organize, in consultation with the States parties concerned, appropriate national training courses and workshops for their reporting officials. Pursuant to a specific recommendation by that Committee, the Centre is currently in the process of elaborating a project to assist the Government of Côte d'Ivoire in the preparation of reports.

C. Distinction between activities financed under the regular budget and those financed under the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights

19. In paragraph 5 of its resolution 1991/49, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to continue to elaborate comprehensive programmes of advisory services and technical cooperation, maintaining a clear distinction between technical cooperation projects financed under the Voluntary Fund and other activities like seminars, fellowships and dissemination of documentation to be financed under the regular budget of the United Nations and/or within the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights. Activities financed under the regular programme and those financed under the Voluntary Fund form part of a comprehensive programme of advisory services and technical assistance. The Secretary-General ensures close coordination between the activities of the regular programme and those of the Voluntary Fund. The resources under the regular budget finance the activities requested by United Nations policy-making bodies: the regular programme of fellowships, international or regional human rights seminars and advisory missions of experts. They are also used to hold national or regional training courses and to provide expert advice to Governments requesting it. Such expert advice relates particularly to the preparation of initial and periodic reports to be submitted to treaty-based expert-bodies, as well as to the elaboration or amendment of constitutional and electoral laws and other legislative assistance. As mentioned in the Secretary-General's previous report (E/CN.4/1991/55), the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights provides additional financial support for practical activities focused on the implementation of international human rights instruments promulgated by the United Nations, its specialized agencies or regional organizations. The resources of the Fund are allocated to finance activities aimed at building up or strengthening national and regional institutions and playing a catalytic role in order to develop or strengthen the necessary regional institutions or national infrastructure responsible for promoting and protecting human rights. Training and other supportive activities will continue to be used to provide the necessary basic information and knowledge needed in institution building and for the widest possible implementation of human rights instruments and, unless part of a comprehensive country programme, will be funded through the regular budget (section 24). Thus, while their substantial interrelationship should be borne in mind, a clear distinction will be made between technical cooperation projects financed under the Voluntary Fund and activities under the regular programme of advisory services.

D. Working methods

20. As already indicated in the Secretary-General's report to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-seventh session (E/CN.4/1991/55), an advisory group was set up in order to assist the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights in dealing with requests submitted by Governments for technical assistance projects to be financed under the Voluntary Fund. It comprises the Heads of the Branches and the Administration of the Centre for Human Rights. The group meets regularly to review requests and to identify projects. The advisory group benefits from consultations with donor and other interested countries, as well as from regular interagency coordination and cooperation with the other relevant parts of the United Nations system. For this purpose, the Centre holds periodic interagency meetings and daily discussions at the working level with concerned agencies or United Nations bodies. Guidelines for project formulation, implementation and reporting were elaborated by the Centre for Human Rights in 1990. The advisory group of the Centre is using these guidelines in appraising project viability, monitoring implementation and assessing results. An internal document, the guidelines are based on standard procedures developed by UNDP for project formulation, implementation, evaluation and reporting. They consist of two integrated parts: the project document as such and a checklist for project appraisal. The checklist comprises a number of questions concerning each of the sections of the project document, which are intended to identify the possible negative factors inherent to a project. The main criteria used include:

(a) The current human rights and political environment and its susceptibility to lasting change;

(b) The justification for having the project including its expected contribution to improvement of human rights implementation;

(c) the intrinsic coherence of objectives and elements of the project to be undertaken; and

(d) the extent to which use can be made of international cooperation between Governments and national and international institutions.

E. Coordination of activities with United Nations organs, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations

21. With a view to avoiding waste of resources through overlapping of activities, the Centre is engaged in coordination with other United Nations organs, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations. This is achieved by holding interagency meetings, joint working groups and ad hoc consultations. In this context and pursuant to paragraph 7 of Commission resolution 1991/50 requesting the Secretary-General to intensify further coordination within the United Nations system for providing advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights, the Centre convened the third interagency meeting on human rights issues on 18 April 1991 at Geneva. The meeting was attended inter alia by representatives of the following United Nations bodies and organizations: the Department of Public Information; the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Crime

Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs at Vienna; United Nations Development Programme; the United Nations Children's Fund; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute; the International Labour Office; the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization; the World Health Organization; the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

22. The meeting allowed participants to review joint programmes and exchange information on a number of on-going activities. A summary of the deliberations is reflected in the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on the development of public information activities in the field of human rights (E/CN.4/1992/22).

23. With the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Centre for Human Rights cooperates on education, training and information in the field of human rights. Possible fields of further cooperation between UNESCO and the Centre envisaged are the establishment of a human rights data bank and in the elaboration of a human rights teaching manual for higher education to be adapted to the different cultural, political and institutional realities.

24. Cooperation between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Centre for Human Rights started with a joint project in Colombia and has been further enhanced and developed since 1989. With reference to the action of the Centre in national and regional human rights institution building, UNDP offers its cooperation through its Resident Representatives in the field. The cooperation between UNDP and the Centre is viewed as important both at the preproject phase and during implementation. The Centre and UNDP regularly review areas for possible joint action in the field.

25. The Centre has actively collaborated with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in connection with training activities aimed at assisting States parties to United Nations conventions on human rights to prepare their periodic reports. In 1991, a manual on human rights reporting was published by the two organizations. The Centre provided staff for UNITAR training courses at The Hague and Geneva and was also represented at the 1991 interagency meeting organized by UNITAR at Geneva. The Centre has also endeavoured to strengthen collaboration with UNICEF in developing and disseminating materials to promote the Convention on the Rights of the Child. A commentary on the Convention is being developed by the Centre with the financial support of UNICEF. The Centre continued to rely on the expertise of members of human rights treaty-established bodies, as well as senior staff of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Labour Office, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Council of Europe and the International Committee of the Red Cross for workshops and training courses organized under the programme of advisory services.

26. The cooperation between the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and the Centre for Human Rights takes the form of the organization of seminars and training courses for judges and administrators of justice. It is proposed to cooperate in the preparation of

a human rights kit for use in the field as a basic comprehensive set of documents on human rights standards, information and education. In 1991, the cooperation between the Centre and UNICRI focused in particular on organizing a tailor-made training course for law enforcement officers in Malta which was held at Valetta from 9 to 20 December 1991 (see paras. 161-163 of this report).

27. As in previous years, the Centre continued to provide the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg with senior staff for lectures in English, French and Spanish, on the international system of protection and promotion of human rights developed by the United Nations during the Institute's summer courses. The 41 fellows of the 1991 United Nations fellowship programme in human rights spent three weeks at the Institute studying the European, American and African regional systems for the protection and promotion of human rights. The Centre also participated actively in activities organized by the Graduate Institute of International Studies at Geneva through lectures given by senior staff of the Centre, as well as participation in seminars organized by the Institute. The Centre further strengthened its cooperation with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law at San Remo, Italy, with a number of joint activities, including, in particular a regional workshop for administrators of justice from French-speaking African countries. Collaboration with the Institute Henri Dunant at Geneva, the International Centre for Sociological, Penal and Penitentiary Research and Studies at Messina, Italy, the International Institute for Higher Studies in Criminal Science at Siracusa, Italy, continued throughout 1991. In particular, the Centre participated in the Eighth Seminar on Contemporary International Humanitarian Law and Current Human Rights Issues in Europe, held at Bucharest and the meeting on the protection of human rights in the administration of criminal justice in Central and Eastern Europe, which took place at Siracusa. The Centre for Human Rights also continued to provide technical assistance to the Arab Institute for Human Rights, at Tunis (see also paras. 126 and 127 below) and the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies of Banjul (see also paras. 123-125 below). The Centre carried out a number of activities with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of the University of Lund, Sweden, including, in particular, a workshop in Namibia and a training course at Geneva (see paras. 42-45 and 59-61 below).

28. Under its programme of advisory services and technical assistance and with a view to increasing its cooperation with regional and national institutions and non-governmental organizations, the Centre collaborated in the organization of or actively participated in more than 100 seminars, workshops and meetings convened by regional institutions, such as the Organization of African Unity and the Council of Europe, national institutions, academic and research institutions and non-governmental organizations in different parts of the world.

29. In addition, during 1991 the Centre continued to strengthen with practical activities and in connection with specific projects its collaboration with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law at San Remo, the International Commission of Jurists and the Andean Commission of Jurists, and participated in a number of joint activities.

30. The cooperation between the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Centre for Human Rights involves joint production of basic public

information materials, exchange of information on working methods and consultation in the field of technical assistance projects. The joint ILO/Centre for Human Rights working group has held several meetings during the year and identified areas for closer cooperation, particularly in connection with the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights, the International Year of Indigenous Peoples and the question of child labour. Furthermore, ILO has incorporated human rights issues in its programme of training for project officers in technical assistance. In this context, the Centre provided the services of a senior staff member to lecture on the United Nations system of protection and promotion of human rights. It is envisaged to include human rights issues in the courses organized by ILO at Turin, Italy, for UNDP coordinators.

31. Cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been most valuable in the field. United Nations special rapporteurs, independent experts and working groups in the field of human rights and UNHCR and ICRC have benefited mutually from the experience gained in the execution of their respective mandates. Senior staff of UNHCR and ICRC made available their expertise in a number of workshops and training courses on human rights organized by the Centre. In addition, senior staff of the Centre and of UNHCR held ad-hoc consultations during 1991 to explore ways to increase cooperation in training and the dissemination of information. The Centre, in cooperation with ICRC, devoted Fact Sheet No. 13 to International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, as well as one issue of its Bulletin to the subject of human rights and humanitarian law. The Centre in collaboration with UNHCR is presently preparing a Fact Sheet on human rights and refugees. Discussions are under way to increase cooperation yet further in the areas of training, promotional activities and in connection with the implementation procedures of the various treaty bodies.

32. The United Nations, the Council of Europe, the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Organization of African Unity have established bodies and mechanisms which have their constitutional basis in the human rights treaties and conventions adopted by each organization. Information is exchanged on a regular basis regarding the status of ratification of human rights instruments developed under each system. Cooperation between the Centre and OAS has permitted a better knowledge of human rights violations in given Latin American countries, as well as the improvement of procedures over the years. At present, the Centre and OAS are envisaging the possibility of establishing, in the OAS region, three subregional human rights centres for documentation and training: one in Central America, another in South America and a third in the Caribbean. The promotional activities of such subregional centres would be closely coordinated with the institutions of OAS. In mid-March 1991, consultations on the establishment of such centres took place in Washington, D.C. The centres would work towards improving implementation of United Nations and OAS human rights instruments through public awareness and the organization of training courses and seminars. Discussions are under way with OAS for the possible outposting to the Centre for Human Rights at Geneva of a staff member in connection with the preparations for the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights.

33. Collaboration between the Centre and the Council of Europe continued to strengthen during 1991. The Centre participated in the following activities organized by the Council of Europe: the Third Conference on Parliamentary Democracy, the Seminar on Women Prostitution and a coordination meeting on cooperation with Eastern European countries all held at Strasbourg, and the Colloquium on Democracy and Legal Protection of Human Rights (Lisbon). The Council of Europe was invited by the Centre to participate in the workshop held at Santiago, Chile in December 1991 on human rights, democracy and economic and social development, as well as in the conference that will be held at Barcelona in January 1992 on international human rights standards for the countries of the conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). In this context it should be noted that in 1991 the Centre for Human Rights was invited to contribute, for the first time to activities relating to human rights within the framework of CSCE. In particular, the Centre participated in the work of the meeting of experts on national minorities, held in July 1991 at Geneva, as well as in the conference on the human dimension which took place in September 1991 in Moscow.

34. As indicated in paragraph 120 below, the Centre continued its programme of technical cooperation with the Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights of the Organization of African Unity during 1991. This cooperation, started in 1988 is aimed at strengthening the capabilities of the Commission in a number of areas through activities under the programme of advisory services. Regular consultations were held during 1991 between the African Commission and the Centre. In addition, the Centre cooperated with the African Commission in a number of training and information activities and was represented at the tenth session of the Commission held at Banjul.

F. Cooperation with non-governmental organizations

35. The Centre for Human Rights continued to strengthen its cooperation with an increasing number of non-governmental organizations, such as Amnesty International, the Andean Commission of Jurists, the International Commission of Jurists, the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, the Caribbean Human Rights Network, the Human Rights Law Group and the Minesota Lawyers International Committee. The Centre participated with non-governmental organizations in a number of joint activities. It was also represented at the eighteenth General Assembly of the Conference of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with The Economic and Social Council, which was held at Geneva in October 1991. The Centre also held briefings for the non-governmental organization community on the World Conference on Human Rights, both in New York and in Geneva.

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ADVISORY SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS FINANCED UNDER THE REGULAR BUDGET

36. In its resolution 1991/50 on advisory services in the field of human rights, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to report to the Commission at its forty-eighth session on the progress made in the implementation of the programme of advisory services in the field of human

rights. The activities financed under the United Nations regular budget (section 24) during 1991 came under three main categories: (a) seminars, workshops and training courses; (b) fellowships; (c) advisory services of experts.

A. Seminars, workshops and training courses

(a) National Workshop on Human Rights (Jakarta, 21-22 January 1991)

37. The Centre for Human Rights organized the National Workshop on Human Rights in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia. The objective of the Workshop was to familiarize and train officials responsible for protecting and promoting human rights at the national level.

38. Besides officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the participants included officials from the Ministry of Defence and Security, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Attorney General's Office, the Armed Forces Strategic Intelligence Agency, the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, the National Police and the State Secretariat. They also included Members of Parliament, representatives of non-governmental organizations, religious sectors, university professors and journalists.

39. Topics discussed included: development of human rights issues in the United Nations system, international monitoring and implementation procedures in the field of human rights, human rights in the Asian context, the role of national institutions for human rights in developing national infrastructure and a plan of action for the establishment of national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights.

(b) Conference on Human Rights in Constitutional and Statutory Development in Bulgaria (Sofia, 21-23 January 1991)

40. A conference on the theme of human rights in constitutional and statutory development in Bulgaria, co-sponsored by the Bulgarian Grand National Assembly and the International Human Rights Law Group, was organized by the Centre for Human Rights in January 1991 at Sofia. The meeting brought international legal and human rights experts together with members of the Bulgarian Grand National Assembly to work on issues to be considered in drafting a new constitution for Bulgaria and incorporating international human rights obligations into Bulgarian law.

41. Bulgarian participants included Members of Parliament, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Human Rights Department officials, representatives of independent bar associations and human rights organizations, journalists and faculty staff and students of the University of Sofia Law School. Among the issues discussed were elements of constitutionality, minority rights, due process of law, freedom of speech, the press and assembly, and emergency powers.

(c) Human Rights Workshop (Windhoek/Swakopmund, 18-24 February 1991)

42. The Ministry of Justice of Namibia, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) and the Centre for Human Rights organized and co-sponsored a human rights workshop from 18 to 24 February 1991 at Windhoek and Swakopmund.

43. The purpose of the Workshop was to disseminate information about and enhance understanding of international and regional human rights instruments, as well as domestic laws. Among the issues considered were the concept of human rights, specific international and regional standards, avenues of redress, derogation and exception clauses, the role of practising lawyers, humanitarian law and refugee law.

44. About 60 officials from various governmental and non-governmental sectors of public life in Namibia participated in the Workshop. The Minister of Justice, the Attorney General, the Chief Justice, the Speaker of the National Assembly and the Ombudsman attended all of the meetings. The Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Home Affairs and the Chief Justice addressed the Workshop. Representatives of the Centre for Human Rights, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the European Commission on Human Rights, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and several Namibian institutions actively participated in the Workshop and conducted case studies and discussion groups which generated lively debates.

45. The report of the Workshop has been published by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Report No. 9, Lund, July 1991. It contains in annexes several of the statements delivered, as well as a summary of all the lectures and ensuing discussions.

(d) Seminar on Traditional Practices affecting the Health of Women and Children (Ouagadougou, 29 April-3 May 1990)

46. The Seminar was organized by the Centre for Human Rights in cooperation with the Government of Burkina Faso, pursuant to Sub-Commission resolution 1989/16, endorsed by the Commission on Human Rights in its decision 1990/109 of 7 March 1990, in which provision was made in particular for holding a regional seminar in Africa. The aim of the Seminar was to assess the human rights implications of certain traditional practices. It was also designed to gather information from participants on the measures taken at governmental and non-governmental levels to end those practices.

47. Representatives of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria and Senegal were present. Representatives of DPI, UNDP, UNHCR, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and WHO, as well as of some non-governmental organizations, were also present.

48. Topics discussed included: human rights implications of harmful traditional practices; son preference: countries where the practice exists; traditional birth practices which present risks to safe motherhood; and

measures so far undertaken both at governmental and non-governmental levels to eradicate these customs. The conclusions and recommendations of the Seminar may be found in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/1991/48.

(e) Workshop on International Human Rights Instruments and Reporting Obligations: Preparation of Reports to United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies (Moscow, 26-30 August 1991)

49. The Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and with the support of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, organized the national Workshop on International Human Rights Instruments and Reporting Obligations: Preparation of Reports to United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies in Moscow, from 26 to 30 August 1991. The Workshop was part of a programme of cooperation with and technical assistance to the Soviet Union which the Centre for Human Rights started in 1988.

50. The objective of the Workshop was to familiarize and train officials responsible for the preparation of reports to United Nations human rights treaty bodies. The Workshop also provided an opportunity for an exchange of information on the implementation of international human rights standards. Topics discussed included: the international system for the promotion and protection of human rights and implementation mechanisms; national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights; basic principles with regard to the preparation and presentation of reports to the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee against Torture and the Committee on the Rights of the Child. Administrators of justice, academicians, officials of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, External Relations and Justice, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations attended and participated in the Workshop.

(f) Meeting of Experts on Indigenous Self-Government (Nuuk, Greenland, 24-28 September 1991)

51. The Meeting of Experts to review the experience of countries in the operation of schemes of internal self-government for indigenous populations took place from 24 to 28 September 1991 at Nuuk, Greenland. Nineteen governmental experts and experts from non-governmental, indigenous organizations, six governmental and nine non-governmental observers, and a representative of ILO participated in the meeting. Four experts from Denmark, Greenland, Guatemala and the Philippines presented background papers on the scope and exercise of internal autonomy and self-government, fiscal and administrative relations and means of planning autonomy, and acted as resource persons during the debate about these questions.

52. The following issues were considered: (a) relationship between the right to self-determination and autonomy and self-government; (b) elements of autonomy and self-government for indigenous peoples; (c) political, legal and other procedures to realize autonomy and self-government; (d) relations between indigenous self-governments and the State as to responsibility-sharing functions, consultation and cooperation and dispute or conflict resolution, resource sharing and management, development planning and management, fiscal

autonomy and administrative arrangements; (e) The Greenland Home Rule Act of 29 November 1978 as an example of a self-government system within a unitary State, its international legal status, foreign policy and treaty-making powers, natural resources and the transferral of areas of competence; (f) other examples of self-management or similar legal arrangements for indigenous peoples in Brazil, Norway, Panama, the Philippines and Sweden.

53. The Meeting concluded its considerations by adopting the Nuuk Conclusions and Recommendations on Indigenous Autonomy and Self-Government. This document consists of 15 principles dealing with the various aspects and elements of autonomy and self-government, and nine recommendations to States and to the United Nations for action. The Meeting also recommended that the Commission on Human Rights consider the possibility of establishing international monitoring mechanisms for indigenous peoples. It requested ILO and the Centre for Human Rights to prepare a manual on experiences in self-government of indigenous peoples and invited States to support its publication and distribution by providing adequate resources. The report of the meeting can be found in document E/CN.4/1992/42.

(g) International Workshop on National Institutions on Human Rights (Paris, 7-9 October 1991)

54. The Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the French National Consultative Commission and with the support of the French Government, organized the International Workshop on National Institutions in Paris, from 7 to 9 October 1991.

55. Among the regional institutions invited to attend as observers were the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights, the European Court of Human Rights, and the OAU Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights as well as several specialized agencies. The following non-governmental organizations were represented at the Seminar: the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies, Amnesty International, the Andean Commission of Jurists, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, the International Commission of Jurists, the International Human Rights Federation, the International League for the Rights and Liberation of Peoples, the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights and the Raoul Wallenberg Human Rights Institute.

56. Representatives of national institutions from Australia, Benin, Brazil, Canada, Chile, France, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia participated in the Workshop.

57. Topics discussed included: relations between national institutions and the State; national institutions and non-governmental organizations; and the jurisdiction and competence of national institutions. The Workshop provided an opportunity for an exchange of information among national institutions on the existing and new channels of communication between various organizations and those organizations concerned with the protection and promotion of human rights; communications between individuals and various human rights

institutions in order to advise the former of their rights and of recourse procedures open to them; communications with non-governmental organizations and regional human rights organs and with the United Nations.

58. The Workshop adopted a number of recommendations on the principles concerning the status of national commissions and their consultative role, including their competence and jurisdiction, composition and guarantees of independence and pluralism, and procedures; on complementary principles concerning the status of commissions with quasi-juridical functions; and on the necessity of strengthening the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights in order to give the appropriate assistance to national institutions. The full text of these recommendations is reproduced in the report of the Seminar (E/CN.4/1992/43).

(h) Training course on human rights information handling and technology (Geneva, 21 October-1 November 1991)

59. The Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, the United Nations Library at the Palais des Nations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, organized in October 1991 a training course on human rights information handling and technology. The course was conducted at Geneva, at the Palais des Nations and at the offices of the various co-sponsoring and collaborating organizations, which also included the International Labour Office, the World Health Organization, the International Migration Organization and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

60. The participants were 20 librarians and documentalists from 18, mostly developing, countries who are working in the field of human rights or on closely related topics. The training course was intended to familiarize the participants with and to train them in the use of search and retrieval facilities available to human rights workers, including such modern technologies as on-line computers and electronic mail systems. Lecturers representing the above-mentioned organizations also briefed the participants on the terminology, standards, procedures and official documentation relevant to human rights, refugee law and humanitarian law.

61. The full report of the training course, including many of the lectures delivered and summaries of the debates, is being issued by the Centre for Human Rights.

B. Fellowship programme

62. In its resolution 926 (X) the General Assembly made direct provisions for the fellowship programme (para. 2). Under the terms of that resolution, the assistance provided by the Secretary-General shall be rendered in agreement with the Governments concerned on the basis of their requests. Therefore, fellowships are awarded only to candidates upon nomination by their Governments.

63. In that regard, every year the Secretary-General sends out invitations to Member States to submit nominations. Governments are reminded that nominees should be directly involved in functions affecting human rights, particularly

in the administration of justice; the Secretary-General also draws their attention to the concern expressed by the General Assembly, in many of its resolutions, with respect to the rights of women.

64. At its forty-seventh session the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1991/55, noted the importance inter alia of fellowships as a form of practical assistance to States with a view to enabling them to develop the necessary infrastructure to meet international human rights standards. The training of government officials, mainly those whose responsibilities are related to the administration of justice and to the implementation of international conventions on human rights, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, is a priority for the programme.

65. An unprecedented number of applications for the fellowship programme was received for the 1991 term. It might be recalled that the fellowship programme is considered to be a part of the regular budget for advisory services; it was restructured in 1988 to make it more effective and the Secretary-General has awarded some 25 to 30 fellowships every year. Due to the growing interest of Governments in the programme, applications have tripled over the last three years, thus making the selection procedure extremely competitive.

66. For the 1991 term, 63 Governments proposed 92 candidates. As stated above, the Secretary-General has attempted to ensure a broad distribution of the fellowships, within the limits of the available resources, among the nationalities of the applicants with priority given, inter alia, to applicants from the developing countries, taking into consideration the allocation of a fair share to women, in conformity with General Assembly resolutions.

67. The principle of geographical distribution is taken into account and priority is given to candidates from States which have never benefited from the fellowship programme or have not done so during the last few years. No more than one candidate from a State at a time is awarded the fellowship. In accordance with the standard practice of the Advisory Services, Technical Assistance and Information Branch, all applications were submitted, for review and selection, to the selection committee of the Centre for Human Rights, composed of a representative of the office of the Under-Secretary-General, the Chiefs of Branch, the officer responsible for the fellowship programme, and the administration. Taking into account the number of candidacies received from the various regional groups, the awards granted to countries in the past, and the qualifications of the candidates, and on the basis of the recommendations of the selection committee, the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights approved the 41 candidates from the following States for the 1991 programme:

Africa

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Congo, Egypt, Guinea, Mali, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Zimbabwe;

Asia

Afghanistan, China, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, and Vietnam;

Latin America

Belize, Bolivia, Chile, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago;

Eastern Europe

Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Ukraine, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia;

Western Europe and other States

Germany, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

68. In regard to the programme, all fellows spent the first and the last week at the Centre for Human Rights in Geneva. During the first week they received briefings by staff members of the Centre on the United Nations system under the Charter, United Nations organs dealing with human rights questions, human rights instruments monitored by special bodies, and the structure of the secretariat at the Centre for Human Rights and its activities.

69. Subsequently, the nominees participated for three weeks in the human rights training course at the International Institute of Human Rights, in Strasbourg, France, where they followed courses on the American, African and European human rights protection systems. Their programme also contained a special course on international humanitarian law, as well as study and discussion of substantive issues such as the death penalty, torture, disappearances, the rights of parents and children, the right to marry and to found a family, and the right of family reunion.

70. At the end of the programme, the fellows spent an additional week at the Centre in Geneva where they attended meetings of the Human Rights Committee and of two presessional working groups of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities: one on slavery and slavery-like practices, the other on indigenous populations. A briefing was conducted on the work of United Nations bodies and specialized agencies such as UNHCR, ILO, UNESCO and WHO. Participants were requested to exchange experience, make an evaluation of the programme and present individual oral reports including each fellow's conclusions and recommendations for his superior.

71. In accordance with the policies and procedures governing the administration of United Nations fellowships, at the conclusion of their training courses all fellowship award recipients must submit a comprehensive final report to the Centre for Human Rights on subjects directly related to their field of activities, most of them directly linked with the administration of justice and the implementation of international standards in their domestic jurisdiction.

72. For purposes of evaluating the programme, participants were requested, as in the past, to complete a questionnaire, indicating whether the topics discussed had met their country's needs and had direct relevance to their professional assignments at home.

73. All participants expressed the view that the five-week programme covered a wide range of theory and practice of human rights issues and the knowledge acquired had a practical application in their respective functions at home. It may be noted that participants are not only from Foreign Ministries but also from Ministries of Justice and Education.

74. Owing to the growing interest of Governments in the fellowship programme, the Commission may wish to consider expanding its scope to accommodate the increasing number of requests to participate.

C. Internship programme 1991

75. In the course of 1991, more than 75 internships were offered to outstanding graduate students to enable them to gain first-hand knowledge of United Nations action and procedures in the field of human rights through active participation in the work of the Centre for Human Rights, under the direct supervision of senior officials. Internships do not entail financial commitments of any kind by the Centre for Human Rights or the United Nations.

76. The restructuring of the internship programme undertaken last year has permitted an improvement in the system of supervision of interns and in the content of the internship programme.

D. Advisory Services of Experts

77. The provision of advisory services of experts in the field of human rights is one of the basic components of the programme established in General Assembly resolution 926 (X). In its most recent resolutions (1990/58 and 1991/50) the Commission recommended to the Secretary-General that increasing emphasis be placed on expert assistance to Governments in their efforts to meet international human rights standards. During 1991, the Centre provided the services of experts to an increasing number of Member States involved in the process of democratization, the introduction of constitutional and legislative changes of the preparation of free and fair elections. This has been the case for Albania, Bulgaria, Lesotho, Mongolia and Romania. The activities have been financed from the Voluntary Fund. The resources of the regular budget have been used for the implementation of Commission resolutions requesting the provision of expert assistance in Equatorial Guinea, Guatemala and Haiti. In this context, it may be recalled that the Commission, in its resolution 1991/50, requested the Secretary-General again to provide urgently more human and financial resources for the enlargement of advisory services, particularly from section 24 of the regular budget of the United Nations, in order to meet the increased demand on this important instrument intended to invigorate the human rights spirit in the world.

78. In Guatemala, pursuant to Commission resolution 1991/51 of 6 March 1991, the Centre organized a field mission for the independent Expert on Guatemala,

Professor Christian Tomuschat (Germany), who visited the country from 29 September to 12 October 1991 to examine the human rights situation. The mission held meetings with national authorities and personalities of the Executive, Judicial and Legislative branches of government, including the President of Guatemala. It also met religious authorities, the National Commission of Reconciliation, the Procurator on Human Rights, representatives of employers' and workers' unions, national non-governmental organizations, as well as a number of individuals presenting allegations of human rights violations. The mission had the opportunity to visit various localities inside the country. In New York, the Expert also held meetings with representatives of the Unitary Representation of Guatemala (RUOG) and the National Revolutionary Unit of Guatemala (URNG). The report of the independent Expert is contained in document E/CN.4/1992/5.

79. In Equatorial Guinea, the Centre for Human Rights organized a field mission for Mr. Volio Jimenez (Costa Rica), the Expert responsible for cooperating with the Government of Equatorial Guinea in the implementation of the plan of action proposed by the United Nations and accepted by the Government, with a view to his studying the existing situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the country. The Expert visited Equatorial Guinea for 25 November to 9 December 1991. During his mission he held meetings with national Executive, Judicial and Legislative authorities, as well as members of the recently-established Human Rights Commission. He met religious authorities and members of the opposition, as well as a large number of individuals presenting allegations of human rights violations. His mission included visits to various localities in the country, as well as to prisons and hospitals in the two main cities of Ecuatorial Guinea. In Madrid, the Expert had the opportunity to meet with representatives of political parties and associations in exile. The report of the Expert is contained in document E/CN.4/1992/51.

80. In Haiti, in conformity with Commission resolution 1991/77 of 6 March 1991, the Centre for Human Rights organized a field mission for the independent Expert on Haiti, Mr. Marco T. Bruni Celli (Venezuela), in order to enable him to examine developments in the human rights situation in that country and to help devise measures for making the necessary improvements. The Expert visited Haiti from 2 to 6 September 1991. He held meetings with national authorities and personalities from the Executive, Judicial and Legislative branches of government, as well as religious authorities and representatives of non-governmental organizations. He also met individuals presenting allegations of human rights violations. A few days after concluding his field mission in Haiti, the constitutionally elected President, had to leave the country because of a coup d'état. Following these events the General Assembly kept the question of the human rights situation in Haiti on the agenda of its forty-sixth session and adopted resolutions 46/7 of 11 October 1991 and 46/138 of 17 December 1991. In those resolutions the Assembly strongly condemned the overthrow of the constitutionally elected President, and the use of violence and military coercion and the subsequent violation of human rights in that country. The Assembly also invited the independent Expert to submit an updated report to the Commission in the light of the events of 29 September 1991 and subsequent developments. His report to the Commission is contained in document E/CN.4/1992/50.

III. OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

81. At its forty-seventh session, the Commission adopted resolution 1991/49 on the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights. In paragraph 14 of this resolution, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to report annually to the Commission on Human Rights on the operation and administration of the Voluntary Fund in a distinct part of his annual report on advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights. Pursuant to that resolution, the following parts of this report will describe current policy and practice, and the envisaged long-term policy. The mandate of the Secretary-General with regard to the Voluntary Fund has been set out in chapter I of this report.

A. Policy and practice

82. In general, the role of technical cooperation in the field of human rights is growing in importance. This instrument provides essential assistance to States in the implementation of human rights standards, the building of infrastructure for the firm establishment of democracy and for development, as well as in the widest possible implementation of human rights standards. The demand for such assistance has increased in recent months and is expected to increase even more in the years ahead. There is therefore a need to design and implement policies both for the short term in order to be able to cope with the recent rise in demand and for the longer term to establish an infrastructure and working methods, both within the Centre and in its relations with other agencies, for the efficient operation of an expanded programme of advisory services and technical assistance.

83. Expansion of activities financed under the Voluntary Fund can be achieved by adopting a dual-track policy. First of all, there is a need to attract contributions to the Voluntary Fund from Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals. This can be achieved by guaranteeing the transparency of the criteria applied and of the rules of procedure to be followed in carrying out technical cooperation in the field of human rights, pursuant to paragraph 13 of Commission resolution 1991/49. In this respect it should be noted that measures have been taken with a view to streamlining management procedures. The second track of this policy is based on the necessity of encouraging Governments to avail themselves of the assistance offered by the United Nations and of providing programmes which are suited to their particular needs. The two tracks meet in the sense that both donors and recipients should be satisfied that the programmes already executed and the programmes available are of clearly demonstrable benefit to the cause of human rights, democracy and development.

84. As a result of the increased scope, magnitude and complexity of the programme under the Voluntary Fund, The Under-Secretary for Human Rights has recently decided to establish a separate technical cooperation unit within the Advisory Services and Technical Assistance Branch of the Centre for Human Rights. This Unit will implement the mandate of the Voluntary Fund and manage the programmes and projects to be financed by the Fund. The Unit has been provided with the necessary staff, which will be expanded if the projects to

be handled by it increase in number, size or complexity. The projects and activities of the Voluntary Fund will be computerized to the greatest extent possible.

85. Furthermore, the Centre will elaborate model programmes, priority being given to programmes aimed at national institution building, as well as the elaboration of long-term projects. In this connection, it should also be noted that the Centre has already started discussions with a number of interested Governments for the establishment of national centres for documentation and training in the field of human rights as joint projects between the Government concerned and the Centre for Human Rights.

B. Project management

86. In line with the dual-track policy outlined above and pursuant to the request by the Commission in paragraph 13 of its resolution 1991/41 to guarantee transparency of the criteria applied and rules of procedure to be followed in carrying out technical cooperation in the field of human rights, the Technical Cooperation Unit is currently undertaking a streamlining of project management procedures. As a result, the activities of the Centre are divided into four categories: project identification and fund raising; project elaboration and appraisal; implementation and project evaluation. Each of these stages is elaborated below.

1. Project identification and fund-raising

87. In paragraph 7 of its resolution 1991/49, the Commission on Human Rights encouraged the Secretary-General and the Centre for Human Rights to participate actively in the formulation of projects regarding technical cooperation in the field of human rights, in close consultation with Governments concerned, taking into account relevant suggestions made by human rights treaty bodies, special rapporteurs and non-governmental organizations. To this end, the Technical Cooperation Unit, which has recently been set up within the Centre (see para. 84 above), will establish working relationships with treaty-based bodies, special rapporteurs and non-governmental organizations. Furthermore, in accordance with the request made by the Commission in paragraph 10 of resolution 1991/49, the Centre will bring regularly to the attention of all Governments and of the competent human rights organs the possibilities that exist under the Voluntary Fund for providing technical cooperation in the field of human rights. The Centre is therefore preparing a publication, outlining the possibilities and explaining procedures to be followed for the benefit of recipient and donor Governments and interested organizations.

88. Furthermore, the Centre will continue, as in the past, to hold regular, informal meetings with donor and other interested countries on various aspects of the utilization of the Voluntary Fund, particularly the need for financial support of projects identified for priority implementation. To this end, ad hoc meetings to present specific proposals or projects may be organized, such as the one held in 1989 regarding the feasibility study conducted in the Gambia for setting up the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights

Studies at Banjul and the meeting on technical assistance to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) held in 1991.

2. Project elaboration and appraisal

89. Three different stages can be distinguished. At the preliminary stage, the Centre for Human Rights, after having received a request, proceeds to elaborate the project in broad lines, including the preparation and clearance of a skeleton budget and consulting with United Nations agencies and other organizations with a view to their possible participation in the project. The Advisory Group preliminarily assesses the proposal and gives its recommendations. Secondly, based on the recommendations of the Advisory Group, selected projects are further elaborated and a detailed cost plan developed. The project thus elaborated is again submitted to the Advisory Group for a final recommendation, after which the project is approved by the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights. Lastly, all the necessary measures are taken to arrange for the release of the required funds and the drawing up of a legal agreement between the parties involved. In view of the ever-increasing number of requests being made and the limited funds available, there is a need to establish the relative importance of projects requested and to appraise their project viability.

3. Implementation

90. The basic responsibility for the implementation of the project rests in most cases with the Centre for Human Rights and the recipient Government. However, depending on the nature of the project, United Nations agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations may be called upon to cooperate by providing additional resources, expertise and logistical support in the field.

4. Project evaluation

91. During the implementation phase, as well as after a project has been implemented, evaluation reports are drawn up stating the main activities, evaluating the ability of the project to attain its objectives, and formulating recommendations with regard both to follow-up programmes in the same country and undertaking comparable programmes in other countries.

C. Policy development

92. In elaborating a long-term policy for the Voluntary Fund, the Centre will be guided by the goals set out in its growth-oriented dual-track policy. As a first step it is proposed that an assessment be made of the global needs for technical cooperation projects under the current mandate, i.e. projects aimed at infrastructural change. This can be done: (a) by reviewing recommendations and/or comments made by United Nations organs and the treaty-based human rights bodies, and requests from Governments, and by careful analysis of other available information and (b) by inferring from this information the number, nature and costs of projects needed. Concurrently, the Centre will draft a directory of projects and will develop model programmes in relevant fields of human rights, which can be easily adjusted according to specific needs.

93. Secondly, the Centre will continue to refine goals, priorities and criteria for project appraisal. As the responsibilities of the Centre with regard to the management of the Voluntary Fund grow, it will undertake a study on the establishment of a review mechanism and on the consequences of a possible expansion of the operation of the Voluntary Fund. The current focus being on activities aimed at building up basic infrastructure in the field of human rights, the Voluntary Fund might in future be called upon to assist in the programmes and projects aimed at the improvement of the implementation of specific rights or clusters of rights.

D. Activities financed under the Voluntary Fund in 1991

94. Activities financed under the Voluntary Fund fall into four broad categories: constitutional law and other legislative assistance, national and subregional centres for documentation and training, training courses, seminars and workshops, and other activities. The following account follows this distinction to the extent possible. However, many projects involve two or more categories. They are placed under the heading corresponding to the main activity in the project.

1. Constitutional law and other legislative assistance

Albania

95. At the request of the Government of Albania, two United Nations experts, accompanied by two United Nations staff members, visited that country from 20 to 23 March 1991 to provide expert assistance with regard to the legal and technical aspects of democratic elections scheduled for 31 March 1991. During their stay in Albania, the experts met in a series of meetings the Chairman of the Election Commission and other members of the Commission, the Chairman of the Computing Centre for the Elections and the persons responsible for State television. They also met Government representatives and leaders of the major political parties contesting the elections. Prior to leaving Albania, the experts provided the Government with their preliminary observations and recommendations, and upon returning to Geneva they drafted a detailed report with additional observations and recommendations.

96. In addition, the Centre for Human Rights, jointly with the Government of Albania, is elaborating a technical cooperation project to assist the national authorities in the setting up and strengthening of national infrastructure for the promotion and protection of human rights. Activities under the project are the dissemination of international human rights instruments in the Albanian language; training administrators of justice; the establishment of a human rights centre for documentation and training; the provision of fellowships; and the provision of expert advice for the revision of the civil and penal codes, as well as computer equipment and basic financial support for the development of human rights curricula for primary and secondary education. Through these activities it is expected that there will be increased implementation of international human rights standards and broader participation of the public at large in human rights matters.

Bulgaria

97. The Government of Bulgaria and the Centre for Human Rights concluded a technical cooperation agreement in July 1991. The principal objective of the programme is to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights, particularly those norms contained in international instruments that have already been ratified by Bulgaria.

98. Main elements of the programme include making available, in the Bulgarian language, the United Nations Bill of Human Rights and other international conventions, as well as information on other topical aspects of human rights standards and machinery of implementation. A manual for teaching human rights in primary and secondary schools will assist in the process of increasing human rights awareness and knowledge of human rights matters among the public at large. It will complement national activities aimed at information, education and training in the field of human rights, emphasizing the international dimension. Additional projects of technical cooperation, including the strengthening of national infrastructure for human rights documentation and training, are also being discussed. The project will particularly address private and public institutions, non-governmental organizations, individuals, the media, parliamentarians, the police, the military and teachers.

Lesotho

99. At the request of the Government of Lesotho the Centre for Human Rights organized a mission to that country from 25 to 30 November 1991 by a team of three international experts and a staff member of the Centre for Human Rights to provide advisory services regarding the legal and technical aspects of democratic elections.

100. The Government of Lesotho requested assistance from the Centre for Human Rights relating to the following matters: advice and comment on the electoral law of the country; advice and assistance in drafting of instructions to polling stations; advice and assistance in drafting instructions to voters describing the steps involved in casting a valid vote; make various other suggestions on activities incidental to the holding of democratic, free and fair elections. The last elections in Lesotho took place in January 1970. In 1990 the present Government decided to hold elections and convened a National Constituent Assembly to draft a new constitution. The Government informed the United Nations of its earnest wish that the 1992 elections should meet international standards of free and fair elections.

101. During the mission the United Nations team met the Head of State, H.M. King Letsie III, the Chairman and three members of the Military Council, the Minister of Law, Justice and Constitutional Affairs, the Chief Justice and another High Court justice, representatives of the 14 registered political parties, the Heads of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches, members of the Task Force on Transition of the National Conference on National Unity and Democracy and representatives of 14 non-governmental organizations and the media (television, radio and the English and Lesotho language press). Extensive and detailed discussions took place with the Ministry staff charged

with drafting the electoral law and organizing the elections and the team visited two villages outside Maseru to hear the views of persons living in the rural areas.

102. The team discussed the following matters during its mission: (a) revision of legal texts (the draft electoral law, relevant parts of the draft constitution, draft code of conduct, etc.); (b) steps taken and those planned to implement texts and organize the elections: appointment of a chief electoral officer, appointment and training of staff, instructions to officials, constituency delimitation, absentee voters; (c) freedom of expression, press, movement, association and assembly, equitable access to media, atmosphere of free political activity, etc.; (d) concrete assistance needs: computers, printing of registration forms and ballot papers, outside expert assistance in legal drafting, funding for the Chief Electoral Officer, etc. A report is now being drafted by the team for the Government's consideration.

Mongolia

103. In response to a request submitted by the Government of Mongolia for advisory services and technical assistance in connection with the preparation of the new draft constitution, a field mission took place to Ulan Bator, from 14 to 27 June 1991. The mission consisted of two United Nations experts and two staff members of the Centre for Human Rights.

104. The purpose of the mission was to provide advisory assistance on issues relating to human rights in constitutional law for consideration by the competent authorities. The United Nations team attended several working sessions with a group of Mongolian experts designated by the Parliament to draft the new constitution. Working sessions were devoted to discussion on all aspects of the draft constitution and to examination of relevant clauses dealing with human rights from the point of view of international human rights law and in the light of human rights norms.

105. In addition, a series of meetings were held with Mr. P. Ochirbat, President of the People's Republic of Mongolia, the Deputy Chairman of the Presidium of the Great People's Hural (the National Assembly), the President and judges of the Supreme Court, the Office of the State Procurator, as well as with representatives of political parties and non-governmental organizations. The final draft of the Mongolian Constitution was submitted to the Assembly for adoption at the end of November 1991.

106. In this connection, as indicated in paragraph 160 of this report, the Centre for Human Rights organized at Ulan Bator, from 28 October to 1 November, a national training course for administrators of justice on international human rights standards and national legislation. The Centre is also ensuring the publication in the Mongolian language of A Compilation of Human Rights Instruments.

Paraguay

107. The Centre for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme started up a technical cooperation programme with Paraguay in 1990. The Ministry of Justice and Labour of Paraguay is in charge of project execution. The main objective of the programme is to provide assistance to the Government for the establishment of the necessary infrastructure for the promotion and protection of human rights following the events of February 1989 which marked the beginning of the democratic process in the country.

108. At the request of the Government of Paraguay, a human rights office was established within the Ministry of Justice and Labour in December 1990. The office serves as a focal point for human rights activities within the Government and cooperates with non-governmental organizations. The project's principal objectives are the incorporation of international human rights standards in the internal legal system and the adoption of measures to establish a national human rights commission made up of representatives of Government agencies and non-governmental organizations. The Centre for Human Rights and UNDP are providing consultants, lecturers, fellowships and relevant documentation, and assistance in both the organization of national workshops and training courses on human rights and in conducting a national promotion and awareness campaign.

109. The Government of Paraguay has again stated that it is interested in continuing to have United Nations support and cooperation, inter alia, in the field of human rights and, to this end, it formulated a strategy in 1991 the implementation of which is the particular responsibility of the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Labour, which is now acting as the coordinator for the various government bodies in this field. Basically the Centre is helping the national authorities: to promote and disseminate information on human rights not only in universities and schools, but also to all population sectors; to contribute to the awareness of and training in human rights of law enforcement officials; to disseminate existing documentation on human rights and to bring about the necessary legal reforms to guarantee the full enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms embodied in the various national and international instruments for the protection of human rights.

110. In November 1991, the Centre for Human Rights and the UNDP office in Asuncion, together with the Human Rights Department, organized an international symposium on a comparison of constitutional reforms. The persons invited to take part were persons with a direct interest in the constitutional reform, such as candidates for election, members of parliament, government officials, academics, members of non-governmental organizations, representatives of indigenous populations and associations working to protect the most vulnerable groups.

111. The topics discussed during the syposium were: assessment of recent experience of constitutional reform (Brazil, Colombia, Peru and Spain); freedom of expression, the importance of journalism; political parties in democratic life, constitutional recognition of their role as vectors of popular participation; the Constitution and the role of women in society; the Constitution and the protection of children; recognition in the future Constitution of the pluri-cultural and pluri-ethnic nature of Paraguay; the

institutional crisis and the rule of law, the need for and scope of a reform of the state of emergency in the Paraguayan Constitution; public international law in modern constitutionalism, precedence over human rights treaties; human rights in Latin American constitutionalism and the Common Market of the Southern Cone.

Romania

112. The United Nations Centre for Human Rights, at the request of the Government of Romania provided advisory services and technical assistance to Romania in connection with the drafting of the new constitution through the organization of a seminar in December 1990 and a mission to that country in February 1991.

113. On 20 May 1990 elections took place in Romania for President and Parliament, the latter composed of a senate and chamber of deputies. One of the principal tasks of the newly elected Parliament was to prepare a new constitution. Both houses of Parliament, which together constitute the Constituent Assembly, established a commission to prepare a draft constitution composed of 26 members coming from both houses of Parliament. That Commission had as a first task to elaborate the basic principles of the draft constitution for discussion, amendment and approval by the Constituent Assembly. The second task of the Commission would be to prepare the text of the draft constitution for submission to the Constituent Assembly on the basis of the basic principles approved by the Assembly. After a discussion of an initial draft with the Permanent Bureau of the Constituent Assembly the "Thèses" (basic principles) for the elaboration of the draft constitution of Romania were made public early in December 1990 by the Commission and the Permanent Bureau for general discussion. On 13 February 1991, the Constituent Assembly began discussion of those basic principles.

114. In response to the request of the Government of Romania for advisory services and technical assistance in connection with the preparation of the draft constitution, a seminar on human rights in constitutional law was organized by the Centre for Human Rights at Geneva from 10 to 14 December 1990 for five members or experts of the Commission of the Constituent Assembly charged with preparing the draft constitution. The five members representing various political parties were brought to Geneva for that period and met with over 20 experts to discuss on diverse subjects relating to human rights in constitutional law. The following main subjects were discussed during the seminar: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the European Convention on Human Rights and Constitutional Law, human rights in the Constitutions of Namibia, Peru and Spain, the independence of the judiciary, the judiciary and the prison system, states of emergency in constitutional law, incorporating economic, social and cultural rights in constitutional law, the right of asylum, national experiences concerning minorities, legislative drafting and constitutional law, the ombudsman, trade union freedoms, the Convention against Torture, United Nations procedures regarding periodic reporting under human rights treaties and complaints and the role of non-governmental organizations in the field of human rights.

115. The second phase of the programme consisted in a mission to Romania by a United Nations expert and two staff members of the Centre for Human Rights having specialized knowledge in subjects relating to human rights and constitutional law. In addition, views on the "Thèses" (basic principles) were sought from ILO and UNHCR. The mission took place from 11 to 15 February 1990. Its purpose was to provide expert advice on matters raised in connection with the draft constitution for consideration by the competent authorities. The mission did not have for its purpose to determine the conformity of the draft provisions with international standards. During that period meetings took place with the Bureau of the Commission of the Constituent Assembly charged with drafting the constitution, with the Commission itself, with members of the Commission for Human Rights, Religious Affairs and Minorities of the Chamber of Deputies, the Minister of Justice, the President of the Supreme Court and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The team attended the first session of the Constituent Assembly and the initial debates on the "Thèses" for the draft constitution.

116. A very wide range of issues concerning general principles, as well as specific drafting techniques, was discussed from the point of view of international and comparative law with those concerned with the drafting of the new constitution. A wide variety of matters which were felt to be important from the human rights point of view were raised and discussed although it was not possible to carry out a comprehensive review touching on each element of the draft constitution. The most important basic issues dealt with were: the rank of international norms within domestic law; permissible limitations on human rights; application of norms by the courts; states of emergency; review of constitutionality; the independence of the judiciary and lawyers; the "Conseil supérieur de la magistrature"; "l'avocat du peuple" and rights of minorities.

117. Support for the transition to democratic government through the 1992 elections was voiced by persons from all sectors of society. The importance of continued international concern was emphasized by all the team met. The Head of State, the Members of the Military Council, the political parties, press, non-governmental organizations, Churches and individuals strongly welcomed the team's visit and emphasized the importance of a continuing interest.

118. A report dealing with these issues was prepared and submitted to the Romanian authorities. In addition to the discussion of general issues and principles, the report contained numerous specific suggestions for the drafting of various provisions. The report also contained a check-list and a comparative chart of the basic human rights provisions as found in the international human rights instruments and in the "Thèses" for the new Romanian constitution.

119. Since October 1991, the Centre has been implementing a long-term project in Romania, involving technical assistance to the Government in the preparation of constitutional and legislative texts, the organization of training courses for administrators of justice, education seminars and other activities, as well as support for national institutions. The programme is scheduled for a two to three-year period and will be financed from the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights.

2. National and subregional centres for documentation and training

(a) Assistance to the African Commission on Human and People's Rights of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

120. During 1991, the Centre for Human Rights continued to collaborate with and to assist the African Commission in strengthening its infrastructure. For this purpose, the Centre invited members of the African Commission to participate in the training course for French-speaking African countries which was organized at San Remo, Italy, from 11 to 15 March 1991 in cooperation with UNICRI and the Italian Government.

121. The Centre for Human Rights, together with the African Commission and with the assistance of the Government of Egypt, organized an international seminar on human rights standards and the administration of justice for high-ranking officials of Ministries of Justice, Foreign Affairs and Interior of African countries. The seminar took place at Cairo from 8 to 12 July 1991 (see also paras. 153-156 below).

122. In 1991, the Centre also made arrangements for the Chairman of the African Commission to address the Commission on Human Rights on the work of the African Commission and representatives of the Centre attended the two sessions of the African Commission held at Lagos in April 1991 and at Banjul in October 1991. In its continuing efforts to help the African Commission in strengthening its infrastructure, the Centre acts as a focal point and coordinator to those interested in assisting the Commission. In August 1991, the Centre and the African Commission signed a technical cooperation agreement which has provided funds to allow the Commission to finance basic equipment and for the recruitment of a legal officer, a librarian and a trainee to help the Secretary of the Commission in his functions. The agreement foresees institution-building support for the establishment of the necessary infrastructure to assist the African Commission in its promotion and protection activities, in particular the creation of an information and documentation centre responsible for, inter alia, the dissemination of information on the African Charter and the work of the Commission; the collection of relevant documents on the African Commission's activities, as well as activities of other international, national and regional human rights bodies; the collection of national legislations and judicial decisions in Africa; the organization of seminars, symposia and courses; the provision of assistance to national institutions in Africa, as well as to African non-governmental organizations in the field of human rights; research studies; and the exchange of information with other human rights centres and institutions at the national, regional and international levels.

(b) Assistance to the Gambia

123. In 1991, the Centre for Human Rights continued its programme of cooperation started in 1989 with the Government of the Gambia with the aim of strengthening its legal institutions and assisting it in the establishment of the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights studies at Banjul. The African Centre's basic infrastructure is now in place and the Centre has formulated a detailed human rights programme with specific human rights projects. In this connection, it is worth mentioning that the assistance

provided by the Centre for Human Rights during 1991 included the provision of books and documentation on human rights to assist the African Centre in its training activities. In order to avoid overlapping, this assistance is coordinated with similar activities aimed at setting up a documentation centre for the African Commission on Human and People's Rights of OAU. In 1991, the Centre for Human Rights continued to provide equipment and finance promotional activities allowing the Director of the African Centre and his deputy to raise funds.

124. The Centre for Human Rights has also financed the participation of the Director of the African Centre in meetings such as the International Seminar on Human Rights Standards and the Administration of Justice held at Cairo in July 1991.

125. During 1991 the Centre for Human Rights continued to collaborate with the African Centre in all its activities by providing resource persons to participate in training courses and by taking part in the governing body of the African Centre.

(c) Assistance to the Arab Institute of Human Rights

126. The Centre has assisted the Arab Institute of Human Rights at Tunis since its creation in 1989 by establishing a documentation centre to promote human rights in the Arab world through training courses, as well as through the dissemination of information.

127. In addition to the acquisition of reference documentation on human rights, the Centre continued during 1991 to provide computer and processing equipment and to assist in the operation of the Arab Institute of Human Rights. The Centre, which is a member of the Executive Board of the Institute, has sent representatives to participate in a number of training and educational activities organized in the course of the year by the Arab Institute. In November 1991, the Centre and the Arab Institute signed an agreement for technical assistance which will allow the Institute to carry out the following activities: (a) bibliographical studies, publication of the Newsletter of the Institute and the Bulletin on Human Rights, publication of ad hoc studies on human rights issues; expansion of the reference library; (b) research on specific human rights issues in several countries of the Arab world including studies on various national legislations; (c) several workshops and seminars per year with the participation of non-governmental organizations of Arab countries; (d) a seminar on migrant issues with the participation of European and Arab experts.

(d) Namibia

128. Pursuant to Commission resolution 1990/10 requesting the Secretary-General to provide such advisory services and other forms of technical assistance as might be requested by the Government of Namibia, the Centre for Human Rights invited the Minister of Justice and two of his advisers to come to Geneva in order to discuss a programme of assistance to Namibia in the field of human rights. After the visit, during which the representatives of Namibia had meetings with the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights and other senior officials of the Centre, a comprehensive request

for assistance was received from the Government of Namibia and is at present under consideration by the Centre. The project being elaborated is aimed inter alia at the establishment of a national centre for documentation and training, which will help inculcate a human rights culture in Namibian officials and thereby support the consolidation of democracy.

(e) Poland

129. A programme of cooperation between the Centre and the Government of Poland, designed to strengthen the country's existing human rights infrastructure was agreed upon in May 1991. The main objective of the programme is to increase implementation of international human rights standards and to broaden participation of the public in human rights matters through the wider dissemination of information in the field of human rights and the training of administrators of justice. It is particularly geared towards parliamentarians, government officials, judges, lawyers, law enforcement officials, teachers, students and non-governmental organizations who play a catalytic role in society and could have a positive effect on the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

130. The programme will include specific projects such as the acquisition of computer equipment, training activities, fellowships, translation and publication of human rights materials in the Polish language and provision of human rights literature. The programme is aimed at strengthening existing human rights institutions in Poland dealing with information and training. The following institutions and organizations, among others, will be cooperating in the implementation of the human rights programme: the Poznan Human Rights Centre of the Polish Academy Sciences; the Human Rights Institute of the Ministry of Justice; the Human Rights Chairs at Lubin and Torun Universities and the Human Rights Foundation of the Polish Helsinki Committee.

(f) Colombia

131. The Centre for Human Rights has been executing a technical assistance programme in cooperation with the Government of Colombia and UNDP. Implemented by the Office of the Presidential Adviser for the Defence, Protection and Promotion of Human Rights, the objective of the programme is to strengthen national institutions in Colombia responsible for protecting and promoting human rights and to strengthen the relevant infrastructure. Under the programme, the Centre has been providing the advisory services of experts, fellowships, training courses, books and documents and assisting in the production of teaching materials on human rights. During 1991, experts continued to assist the Colombian authorities on questions relating to the promotion of human rights, particularly in the field of education, and concerning procedures in cases of involuntary or enforced disappearances. Additional information about activities as well as preliminary results of the programme of cooperation between the Government of Colombia, UNDP and the Centre for Human Rights can be found in paragraphs 70 to 73 of last year's report of the Secretary-General on advisory services and technical assistance, (E/CN.4/1991/55).

(g) Uruguay

132. At the request of the Government of Uruguay, a technical cooperation agreement for the promotion of human rights was signed in 1990. In 1991, the Ministry of External Relations of Uruguay established a human rights unit to be responsible for coordinating activities in this field and in charge of the execution of the technical cooperation project with the Centre for Human Rights. The main objectives of the project are to disseminate information on international human rights instruments and their implementation and to obtain practical assistance in establishing national infrastructure for the promotion and protection of human rights. This is being done through the establishment of a basic human rights library, the hiring of national experts who are human rights specialists, the organization of human rights training and education courses and the installation of a data processing system. Training courses are conducted for law enforcement officers, including police, magistrates and prison officers. Research is being conducted in order to compile Uruguay's internal legislation with a view to bringing it more into line with international legal provisions relating to human rights.

3. Training courses, seminars and workshops

(a) Training Course for French-speaking African countries (San Remo, Italy, 11-15 March 1991)

133. The Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with UNICRI and the Italian Government, organized a training course on international human rights standards and the administration of justice for officials of French-speaking African countries at San Remo in March 1991. The training course was attended by participants from: Algeria, Benin, Burundi, Comores, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Togo and Tunisia.

134. One of the main objectives of this training course was to familiarize officials responsible for the administration of Justice in French-speaking countries with international human rights standards and their implementation in the field of the administration of justice. Participants in the training course showed particular interest in the rights of detained persons and in detention conditions and raised the question of the importance of assistance being given to countries to allow them to strengthen their penitentiary institutions.

(b) Workshop for Portuguese-speaking countries on the teaching of human rights (Lisbon, 8-12 April 1991)

135. At the request of the Government of Portugal, the United Nations Centre for Human Rights organized in May 1988, under the programme of advisory services and technical assistance, a training course for government officials responsible for implementing international human rights standards at the national level and/or preparing periodic reports to be submitted by States parties under the United Nations human rights conventions.

136. The Centre for Human Rights welcomed the initiative put forward by the Government of Portugal to organize a follow-up workshop for teachers from Portuguese-speaking countries, as well as for officials of Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice and Education. This initiative was based on a proposal submitted to the Government of Portugal by the International Training Centre for Human Rights and Peace Teaching.

137. One of the main objectives of this Workshop was to assist professionals involved in education and Government officials from different ministries in dealing with human rights questions and in understanding better the international system for the promotion and protection of human rights. The Workshop was specifically designed to familiarize participants with the United Nations system as it relates to human rights; case studies on monitoring methods; adoption and entry into force of an international instrument relating to human rights; national experiences concerning the approval and application of international instruments relating to human rights; case studies with regard to racism and the elimination of racial discrimination; the rights of the child and problems relating to the realization of these rights; regional organizations for the protection of human rights; and the presentation of teaching methods for human rights education. The Workshop was of particular importance to teachers from Portuguese-speaking countries responsible for developing human rights education in primary, secondary and vocational schools.

138. The Governments of Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tomé and Principe were invited to appoint three participants each. As the host country, Portugal had several attending the Workshop. Representatives from local non-governmental organizations, national committees of UNICEF, UNESCO, FAO and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child actively participated in the Workshop.

139. At the end of the session, the participants agreed that education and information on human rights were the essential core for the observance of human rights and for the implementation of human rights standards. It was therefore considered necessary to disseminate United Nations human rights materials widely, as well as to organize in each of the seven Portuguese-speaking countries national human rights training courses, particularly for officials in the ministries of education.

(c) Seminar on International Human rights Standards and Constitutional Law for Specialists from South Africa (Geneva 17-20 June 1991)

140. The General Assembly in its resolution 45/176 A entitled "International efforts to eradicate apartheid" called for measures aimed at eradicating apartheid to be maintained and appealed for economic, humanitarian, legal, educational and other assistance and support to the victims of apartheid and to all those, including previously banned organizations, who oppose apartheid and promote a united, non-racial, democratic society in South Africa.

141. The Centre for Human Rights, within the programme of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights has sought ways of providing assistance to those working for a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa pursuant to the request of the General Assembly. After extensive

consultation and in close cooperation with the Centre against Apartheid, the Centre for Human Rights and the World Council of Churches decided to organize a seminar on international human rights standards and constitutional law. The purpose of the Seminar was to bring together specialists from South Africa involved in the preparations for the drafting of a new constitution and international experts to explore how international human rights standards can be expressed in constitutional law.

142. The Seminar took place at Geneva from 17 to 20 June 1991. Thirty-three participants from South Africa involved in the development of a new constitutional structure in that country took part in their personal capacities. They came from a broad spectrum of South African society. Ten outstanding international experts were invited to present papers and lead the discussions on international human rights norms and how they can be included in constitutional law. Issues addressed included: international human rights standards and constitutional law with special reference to the independence of the judiciary; constitutional protection of internationally guaranteed economic, social and cultural rights; national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights: the ombudsman; constitutional protection of internationally guaranteed civil and political rights; constitutional guarantees for human rights including judicial remedies; constitutional law, equality, non-discrimination and the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination; constitutional protection of the rights guaranteed by the International Labour Code; constitutional protection of the rights of the minorities; constitutional guarantees for the independence of the judiciary in Common Law countries and constitutional protection of human rights promoted by UNESCO.

143. At the end of the Seminar a general discussion on international human rights standards and constitutional law took place. The participants expressed deep appreciation of the Seminar and often referred to the fact that it was the first discussion of constitutional issues between people from South Africa from such a broad range of groups.

144. During the Seminar and subsequently many requests were received for further activities and assistance in promoting understanding of and respect for human rights in the South African context. Suggestions were made that similar broad-based seminars should be held in the future on other topics, for example, on a constitutional court, the judiciary, and standards for the police, as well as information and training activities. Other requests related to education and advanced studies in human rights, publications, including training material for teachers, lawyers, judges and police officers, and the translation and distribution of human rights material. Thought was given by many to projects which might assist in the coming transitional period from the point of view of human rights. These requests are being reviewed in close cooperation with the Centre against Apartheid.

(d) National training course on the implementation of United Nations mechanisms in the field of human rights, (Brasilia, 17-19 June 1991)

145. The Centre for Human Rights in cooperation with the Government of Brazil organized at Brasilia a national training course on the implementation of United Nations mechanisms in the field of human rights. The aim of the course

was to inform participants about international human rights standards and mechanisms available at the international and national levels.

146. Government representatives from 27 provinces, the heads of various military police departments, political figures, administrators, judges and outstanding national lawyers were invited to participate in a three-day intensive briefing on the basic aspects of human rights and the administration of justice. Particular attention was directed to the application of international human rights standards in domestic law and how best to ensure that Brazil's treaty obligations were fulfilled at the national and international levels.

147. Over 100 participants attended the course. Subjects included: the application at the national level of the international human rights standards enshrined in the International Covenants on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and on Civil and Political Rights, as well as in the Optional Protocol to the latter; the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination; the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and other international principles and declarations related to the administration of justice and human rights.

148. Among the major concerns specifically addressed by participants during the training course was the problem of street children and the violation of their rights, in particular the feasibility of promoting and protecting those rights.

149. At the request of the provincial authorities present, it was agreed that similar briefings should be held at the local level as soon as possible. Provinces could be grouped by regions and the United Nations would be requested to sponsor these events. In the view of the participants, the observance of human rights depended on the dissemination of information about human rights in order to build up public awareness. In this respect, the Centre for Human Rights agreed to assist with the organization of future briefings and to provide Brazil with the necessary documentation to facilitate this process.

(e) National training course on the application of United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures (Caracas, 25-28 June 1991)

150. The Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the Government of Venezuela, organized the first national training course on the implementation of United Nations mechanisms in the field of human rights, including international humanitarian law, at Caracas from 25-28 June 1991.

151. Over 80 government officials, judges, and prosecutors attended the training course. Particular attention was directed to the application of international human rights standards in domestic cases; the issue of international humanitarian law in situations of internal strife was particularly discussed. The programme included briefings on the United Nations system for the protection of human rights, the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocol, the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of

All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention against Torture and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and a special briefing on international humanitarian law.

152. Participants expressed particular interest in the administration of justice, the rights of detainees, jail and detention centre conditions, and the applicability of international human rights norms to human rights questions at the national level. The Centre for Human Rights was urged to provide the participants with all possible human rights documentation and to organize local training courses for judges and prosecutors.

(f) African Workshop on International Human Rights and the Administration of Justice (Cairo, 8-12 July 1991)

153. The Centre for Human Rights organized a regional seminar on human rights standards and the administration of justice, which took place from 6 to 12 July 1991 at Cairo. The Seminar which was organized under the programme of technical cooperation between the Centre and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and with the collaboration of the Egyptian Government was intended for high-ranking officials from Ministries of Justice, Foreign affairs and the Interior and brought together more than 100 participants from 41 African countries. The members of the African Commission as well as a number of African non-governmental organizations working in the field of human rights also attended the Workshop.

154. The following topics were addressed: implementation of United Nations human rights standards and the administration of justice; procedural guarantees during investigation and prosecution and prevention of torture; treatment of detainees and prisoners; international cooperation in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice; the role of lawyers and the independence of the judiciary; reporting obligations under major conventions and the relevant treaty-based bodies; racism and racial discrimination; regional institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights: the African Commission and the rule of law in the African Charter; national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights; humanitarian and refugee law; international labour standards; United Nations advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights and the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights.

155. From the discussions which took place during the workshop it appears that the participants were particularly concerned about the following issues: the need for a really independent judiciary, the implementation of judicial procedures as well as the practice of administrative detention, the lack of access to courts and to legal aid, the length of judicial procedures. It was also noted that the full respect for human rights in the administration of justice was often hampered either by financial constraints or lack of political support.

156. Another concern related to the need for information, education and training in the field of human rights, because very often those responsible for the administration of justice in Africa are not sufficiently aware of human rights standards.

(g) Seminar on international human rights standards for judges of the Supreme Court of Romania (Bucharest, 23-25 September 1991)

157. A seminar on international human rights standards for the judges of the Supreme Court of Romania was organized at Bucharest from 23 to 25 September 1991 in cooperation with the Supreme Court and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania. It brought the judges of the Supreme Court of Romania and the President of the District Court of Appeals together with prominent international experts in human rights to discuss international human rights law. The theme of the seminar was human rights and the role of the judiciary in a democratic society.

158. The subjects discussed were: the United Nations and human rights; international human rights standards and the administration of justice, interdependence and impartiality of the judiciary, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, international standards on freedom of religion, thought and expression, international standards relating to equality, prevention of discrimination, minorities and trade union freedom.

159. A briefing was organized on United Nations human rights activities and non-governmental organizations for a wide range of Romanian non-governmental organizations. This briefing was organized by the Centre for Human Rights in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The briefing dealt with the United Nations system for the promotion and protection of human rights and the role of non-governmental organizations. The participants welcomed the opportunity to discuss those issues with the international experts. It was the first meeting of its kind for them and they agreed to remain in contact regarding their human rights activities.

(h) National training course on international human rights standards and national legislation (Ulan Bator, 28 October-1 November 1991)

160. A training course on international human rights standards and national legislation was organized at Ulan Bator by the Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Mongolia. Over 100 persons participated in the course, which was intended for key officials from the Ministries of Justice, Labour, the Interior and Foreign Relations, representatives of local authorities of the various provinces of Mongolia, parliamentarians, police officials, legal practitioners, including representatives of the Office of the Procurator General, the Supreme Court and the Bar Association, as well as representatives of several human rights organizations. The main objective of the course was to provide a better knowledge and understanding of international human rights standards and their existing implementation machinery.

(i) Training course for law enforcement officials (Valetta, 9-19 December 1991)

161. The course was organized jointly by the Centre for Human Rights, the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch and UNICRI, in collaboration with the Government of Malta. It comprised three sessions, two of them running parallel during the first week, and the third during the second week. Each session was directed to a specific category of law enforcement officers, as follows: (a) assistant commissioners, superintendents and inspectors; (b) security personnel officer cadets; and (c) Criminal Investigation Department officer cadets.

162. The course included study of the relevant international instruments on human rights, such as the Universal Declaration, the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials. One particular and interesting feature of this programme was that law enforcement officers lectured during the course. This approach has been followed in the past by the Centre, particularly in workshops organized in Latin America. It has proved beneficial for an exchange of views between the guest speaker, a police officer, and the law enforcement officials attending the course.

163. This training course carried out in Malta provided an opportunity to test a specifically designed programme on a large representative sample of law enforcement officials. With regard to its population and territory, Malta is a small State with approximately 350,000 inhabitants in a small territory. Its police force consists of approximately 1,600 men, of whom approximately 200 are officers. Its army consists of approximately 1,200 men, of whom 60 are officers, and its customs service of approximately 150 men, of whom 30 are officers. Approximately half of the 300 law enforcement officers in Malta participated in this pilot training course for police officials. This is a representative sample and the results of the course will provide reliable information which can constitute a useful basis for further development of a specific programme on human rights and crime prevention for law enforcement officers.

(j) Latin American Seminar on Human Rights, Democracy, Economic and Social Development (Santiago, 9-13 December 1991)

164. During this Seminar, organized by the Centre for Human Rights in cooperation with the Government of Chile, human rights experts, representatives of Latin American Governments and non-governmental organizations analysed the interdependence of democracy, respect for human rights, development and social justice in a Latin American context.

165. Among the issues discussed during this seminar were: the international protection of democracy, Latin American experiences with factors hampering democracy; human rights and economic and social development; Inter-American regimes for the protection of human rights; the role of technical cooperation in the promotion and protection of human rights; implementation of international human rights standards, popular participation as a factor in

development and the full realization of human rights; the United Nations programme of advisory services and technical assistance; and the World Conference on Human Rights.

166. The discussions resulted in more nuanced insights; the participants expressed their satisfaction with this increased knowledge as a basis for the many different activities in which they are involved. This also applies to the Centre and its planning of future support of activities in Latin America. It is intended to present the main interventions and discussion in a publication as a contribution to the advancement of the thinking in this area.

4. Other activities

(a) Assistance to Guinea

167. Assistance to Guinea has continued during 1991 in the form of financing the reproduction on audio cassettes of the text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was translated in 1990 into the four main local languages of the country. These activities are a follow-up of the national training course on the application of international human rights standards which was held by the Centre in cooperation with the Government of Guinea at Conakry from 17 to 22 April 1989.

(b) Working Group on the drafting of a teaching manual on human rights for schools of social workers (Geneva, 11-17 September 1991)

168. At the request of the Brazilian Government a working group was organized from 11 to 17 September 1992 by the Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW), to prepare the final draft of the human rights curriculum for schools of social workers. The participants of the working group were the IFSW President, the IFSW Human Rights Commissioners from Africa, Asia and Pacific and Europe, as well as the Commission's secretary, the Secretary-General of the International Association of Schools of Social Workers, social work educators from Europe, the IFSW Associate Secretary-General and a representative of UNESCO. The denial of human rights and fundamental freedoms not only is an individual and personal tragedy, but also creates conditions of social and polititical unrest, sowing the seeds of violence and conflict. Social workers deal with the most vulnerable groups with respect to human rights. They have the particular obligation to ensure that procedures are protected and that substantive needs are met.

169. The draft of the curriculum will be tested and reviewed at selected schools in Africa, Asia, Europe and North America. The final text will then be printed and widely disseminated. The purpose of the curriculum is to provide social work students, teaching staff and practising social workers with an understanding and awareness of human rights issues and concerns.

IV. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Additional and pending requests for cooperation

170. The future activities of the United Nations programme of advisory services and technical assistance will continue to follow the directives established in General Assembly resolution 926 (X) and in the relevant Commission on Human Rights resolutions. The Secretary-General will also continue to take into account the comments and views expressed by Governments during the consideration of the programme by the Commission. In addition, the Secretary-General will ensure that the guidelines recently developed by the Centre on the allocation of the resources available through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights are followed when projects are formulated and implemented. The Secretary-General will also ensure close coordination between the activities financed under the regular programme of advisory services and those financed under the Voluntary Fund. Close coordination will be maintained with the other programmes of the United Nations system.

171. The following requests for provision of advisory services and technical assistance are under consideration. A number of Member States are at various stages of discussions concerning the setting up of national centres for documentation and training in the field of human rights, as joint projects between the Governments concerned and the Centre for Human Rights. The implementation and modalities of those activities will depend upon the human and financial resources available to the programme and, in particular, upon those available under the Voluntary Fund.

Africa

Angola	Training course on international standards in the field of human rights;
Benin	Human Rights Commission of Benin (a non-governmental organization), supported by the Government, for assistance in the provision of premises, office equipment, books, training and fellowships;
Burundi	Human rights training and education, advisory services of experts and provision of documentation;
Cameroon	Establishment, in Yaounde, of a subregional institute for human rights;
Central African Republic	Training course on international instruments in the field of human rights;
Côte d'Ivoire	Organization of a training course on the preparation of periodic reports to United Nations legislative bodies;

Equatorial Guinea	Pursuant to Commission resolution 1991/80, such advisory services and other forms of appropriate assistance in the field of human rights as may be requested by the Government;
Madagascar	Fellowships and training courses for judges, law professors and law enforcement officers; holding of a training course in Tananarive;
Malawi	Proposal made by UNDP Malawi to organize a high-level seminar on crime and development and to carry out a feasibility study to assess the needs in the field of social defence and human rights;
Mauritania	Assistance to the authorities in the ratification of various human rights instruments; adaptation of national legislation to the provisions contained in those conventions;
Morocco	Establishment of a centre for documentation and training;
Namibia	Comprehensive assistance pursuant to Commission resolution 1990/10;
Rwanda	Training and information activities, and the provision of documentation in the field of human rights;
Senegal	Fellowships and the establishment of a centre for documentation and training;
Sudan	Technical assistance in the field of human rights;
Swaziland	Training course on international standards in the field of human rights;
Tanzania	Assistance to establish a centre for documentation and training;
The Gambia	Continuation of the technical assistance programme to the African Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Studies;
Tunisia	Continuation of assistance to the Institute of Human Rights, particularly in its training activities;
Zaire	Assistance in order to organize seminars throughout the country to sensitize specific target groups on human rights issues;
Organization of African Unity	Continuation of the programme of technical cooperation, started in 1988, with the OAU Commission for Human and Peoples' Rights. The Centre is elaborating a global programme of activities.

Asia and the Pacific

Cambodia	Implementation of human rights activities, in collaboration with appropriate United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, within the framework of the peace plan developed by the United Nations;
Indonesia	Workshop on regional arrangements for the Asia and Pacific region;
Iran	Training course on reporting obligations under article 40 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
Mongolia	National training course on the administration of justice and human rights, in 1992; publication of relevant human rights instruments in the local language;
Nepal	Translation and publication of human rights materials; organization of national seminars for law enforcement officials;
Philippines	National training programme for human rights investigators and for the establishment of an Asia-Pacific human rights institute;
Thailand	Development of a bureau of civil rights protection and legal aid in the Office of the Procurator General.

Europe

Albania	Services of experts in drafting the constitution and legislation, training of law enforcement officers and the establishment of a law faculty;
Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	National training course and other forms of technical assistance, including the setting up of a documentation and training centre;
Poland	Continuation of programme, acquisition of computer equipment, training activities, fellowships, translation and publication of human rights materials in the Polish language, and provision of human rights books;
Romania	Provision of experts to assist the national authorities in the legislative process; establishment of a centre for documentation and research in human rights;
Spain	A European regional workshop on human rights;

Ukraine	Establishment and development of a national centre for documentation and training; national training courses, international workshops, fellowship awards and documentation.

Latin America

Argentina	Organization of national training courses on human rights and the administration of justice;
Bolivia	Organization of a national training course on the implementation of international human rights instruments;
Brazil	Workshops on human rights and the administration of justice;
Colombia	Continuation of joint UNDP/Centre for Human Rights programme to strengthen human rights infrastructure;
Costa Rica	Strenghtening of national institutions (ombudsman);
Ecuador	Strengthening of national institutions to train police on human rights principles and to train administrators of justice;
Guatemala	Assistance to the Commission on Indigenous Communities of the Congress in the elaboration of a draft law on indigenous peoples;
Honduras	Assistance supporting governmental activities aimed at developing and strengthening institutions and infrastructure;
Paraguay	Continuation of assistance to strengthen national institutions, in collaboration with UNDP;
Peru	Assistance in strengthening national institutions.

Annex I

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION
IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

	US$
Contributions received as at 31 December 1991	4 846 000
Pledges received as at 31 December 1991	384 600
Total (rounded off)	5 230 600
Disbursed from the start of the Fund until 31 December 1991	- 2 617 000
Carry-over to 1992	2 613 600
Commitments already made for 1992	- 1 352 800
Balance	1 260 800

Utilization during 1991

Advisory services of experts	143 285
Strengthening of regional and national human rights institutions (including a seminar on this subject in Paris)	706 110
Training courses and workshops	367 455
Seminars for the introduction of human rights in newly democratized countries or for policy discussions	514 265
Books and other materials, translations, etc. ...	50 285
Total	1 781 400

Project commitments in 1991
(as at 23 December 1991)

The table below provides a financial summary of all the projects which have been funded under the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights in 1991. Some of these projects have been carried forward from previous years. It should also be noted that the numbering of the projects in 1991 does not always follow a sequence, due to the fact that some projects were postponed. An asterisk indicates that the project has been completed.

Project No.	Activity	Allotment Budgeted for 1991 (thousands of US$) (13% support cost included)
1988/2*	Technical cooperation to strengthen documentation centre (Uganda)	5.6
1988/3*	Country programme to strengthen human rights infrastructure (Guatemala)	17.2
1989/1*	Publications on human rights in local languages (Guinea)	7.6
1989/3 and Add.1*	Strengthening of regional institutions: African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (the Gambia)	50.8
1990/1*	Strengthening of regional institutions: Arab Institute on Human Rights, Tunis	36.2
1990/2*	Country programme: Strengthening of national institutions (Paraguay)	54.2
1990/4*	Training course on international human rights standards (Uruguay)	37.4
1990/5*	Technical cooperation for elections (Romania)	18.1
1990/6*	Workshop on regional arrangements (the Philippines)	152.1
1990/7*	Strengthening of Regional Institutions: Cooperation with African Commission (OAU)	52.3
1990/12	Legislative history, Convention on the Rights of the Child	8.5

Project No.	Activity	Allotment Budgeted for 1991 (thousands of US$) (13% support cost included)
1990/13*	Technical cooperation: Advisory services of experts on constitutional reform (Romania)	43.3
1991/1*	Training course on implementation of international human rights Instruments and Administration of Justice (San Remo)	147.2
1991/2*	Training course on human rights (Portugal)	77.3
1991/3*	Technical cooperation: Elaboration of a new constitution (Mongolia)	28.8
1991/3/Add.1*	Training course on human rights standards and national legislation (Mongolia)	79.7
1991/4*	Technical cooperation: Advising on democratic elections (Albania)	15.5
1991/5	Country programme: Strengthening national human rights infrastructure (Uruguay)	39.0
1991/6*	Training course on implementation of human rights mechanisms (Brazil)	29.8
1991/7*	Training course on implementation of human rights mechanisms (Venezuela)	14.9
1991/8*	African Seminar on Human Rights Standards and Administration of Justice (Cairo)	224.6
1991/9	Country programme: Strengthening national human rights infrastructure (Poland)	141.3
1991/10*	Seminar on constitutional law - South Africa (Geneva)	169.2
1991/11	Strengthening of regional institutions: Cooperation with African Commission (OAU)	192.0
1991/12	Country programme: Strengthening national human rights infrastructure (Paraguay)	39.9
1991/13*	Seminar on national institutions (Paris)	273.2

Project No.	Activity	Allotment Budgeted for 1991 (thousands of US$) (13% support cost included)
1991/14*	Strengthening of regional institutions: Arab Institute on Human Rights, Tunis	19.8
1991/15	Strengthening human rights infrastructure (Bulgaria)	39.5
1991/16	Strengthening regional institutions for protection and promotion of human rights: African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (the Gambia)	24.9
1991/17*	Seminar on the elaboration of a curriculum for international schools of social workers (Geneva)	29.4
1991/18*	Seminar on human rights standards (Romania)	34.8
1991/19	Advisory services of experts for legal and technical aspects of elections (Lesotho)	23.3
1991/21*	Latin American seminar on human rights, democracy and development (Chile)	65.3
1991/22*	Publications: Diffusion of instruments in local languages (Guinea)	16.6
1991/23*	Training course for law enforcement officers (Malta)	25.4
1991/24*	Strengthening of regional institutions: Arab Institute on Human Rights, Tunis	155.8

Annex II

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1991

Government	Amount		Date pledged	Equivalent US$	Date paid	Final amount US$
Australia	$A	10 000	Feb. 1989	8 815	Feb. 1989	8 815
(2)	$A	20 000	Dec. 1990	15 600	Feb. 1991	15 600
Austria	US$	10 000	Dec. 1988	10 000	Dec. 1988	10 000
(2)	US$	10 000	Dec. 1989	10 000	Dec. 1989	10 000
(3)	US$	20 000		20 000	Oct. 1991	20 000
Canada	Can$	150 000	Sept. 1987	113 636	Sept. 1987	113 636
Colombia				10 000	Apr. 1991	10 000
Denmark	Dkr	700 000	Apr. 1990	108 493	Aug. 1990	108 493
(2)	Dkr	1 800 000	Mar. 1991	264 492	Oct. 1991	264 492
Finland	Fmk	50 000	Mar. 1988	12 195	Apr. 1988	12 195
(2)	Fmk	60 000	Mar. 1989	14 405	Apr. 1989	14 405
(3)	Fmk	250 000	June 1989	56 884	Aug. 1989	56 884
(4)				17 972	Aug. 1990	17 972
(5)				117 188	Dec. 1990	117 188
(6)				352 016	May 1991	352 016
(7)				18 703	May 1991	18 703
(8)	Fmk	1 387 500	Dec. 1991	(322 674)		
France	FF	500 000	Nov. 1988	80 386	May 1989	80 386
(2)	FF	567 000	Apr. 1990	98 780	Apr. 1990	98 780
(3)				34 843	Aug. 1990	34 843
(4)	FF	400 000		76 336	Oct. 1990	76 336
(5)	FF	1 415 845		273 329	Feb. 1991	273 329
(6)	FF	400 000		69 565	Oct. 1991	69 565
Germany a/	DM	40 000	Mar. 1998	24 054	Apr. 1988	24 054
(2)		40 000	Jan. 1989	21 755	Mar. 1989	21 755
(3)	US$	23 557		23 557	Mar. 1990	23 557
(4)	US$	23 454		23 454	Aug. 1991	23 454
Greece				5 000	Apr. 1991	5 000
Hungary	US$	2 500	Sept. 1989	2 500	Oct. 1989	2 500
(2)				2 500	Oct. 1990	2 500
Italy	US$	50 000	June 1988	50 000	July 1988	50 000
(2)	US$	99 990	Jan. 1989	99 990	June 1990	99 990
(3)	US$	177 570	June 1989	177 570	Sept. 89 - Feb. 90	177 570
(4)	Lit.	170 000 000	June 1991	133 543	Oct. 1991	133 543
					SUB-TOTAL	2 347 561

Government	Amount		Date pledged	Equivalent US$	Date paid	Final amount US$
					C/F	2 347 561
Ireland	£Ir	2 000	Mar. 1991	3 572	Mar. 1991	3 572
Japan	US$	50 000	Mar. 1989	50 000	Dec. 1989	50 000
(2)				50 000	Apr. 1991	50 000
Netherlands	f.	100 000	Mar. 1988	46 713	Aug. 1988	46 713
(2)				50 652	Dec. 1989	50 652
(3)				24 935	Oct. 1990	24 935
(4)	f.	60 000	Dec. 1990	35 740	Dec. 1990	35 740
New Zealand	US$	10 432	Aug. 1988	10 432	Aug. 1988	10 432
(2)	US$	9 392	June 1989	9 392	June 1989	9 392
(3)	US$	9 432		9 432	Mar. 1990	9 432
(4)	$NZ	16 000	May 1991	9 427	May 1991	9 427
Norway	NKr	1 000 000	Jan. 1988	157 356	Jan. 1988	157 356
(2)				160 456	Jan. 1990	160 456
(3)	Sw F	331 440	Mar. 1991	253 008	Mar. 1991	253 008
Panama				1 000	Nov. 1990	1 000
(2)				1 000	Aug. 1991	1 000
Portugal				10 000	Mar. 1991	10 000
Sweden	SKr	2 000 000	June 1988	334 616	June 1988	334 616
(2)				61 543	June 1990	61 543
(3)	SKr	3 000 000	Feb. 1991	506 985	Dec. 1991	506 985
(4)				332 881	June 1991	332 881
Switzerland	Sw F	55 000	Dec. 1989	36 424	Jan. 1990	36 424
(2)	Sw F	50 000	Dec. 1990	38 559	Jan. 1991	38 559
(3)				2 500	Nov. 1991	2 500
(4)	Sw F	80 000	Dec. 1991	(59 259)		
Togo	CFAF	500 000	May 1988	(1 730)		
United Kingdom	Sw F	48 400	Mar. 1988	34 820	Mar. 1988	34 820
(2)	£	30 000	Mar. 1989	56 775	Aug. 1990	56 775
(3)	£	30 000	Feb. 1991	57 370	Feb. 1991	57 370
Uruguay	US$	1 000	May 1989	1 000	June 1989	1 000
					SUB-TOTAL	2 346 588
TOTAL						4 694 149

Non-governmental organizations	Amount		Date pledged	Equivalent US$	Date paid	Final amount US$
					C/F	4 694 149
Fond. Cult. Islamique	Sw F	8 345		5 282		5 282
Minnesota Lawyers Int. Human Rights Committee		100				100
Peace Prize to Centre for Human Rights	Sw F	6 788		4 269		4 269
World Blind Union	$	1 000	Dec. 1987	(1 000)		
Sale of UN Human Rights watches						
(1)	Sw F	26 409		15 814		15 814
(2)	Sw F	11 244		8 853		8 853
Katherine Winckler Trust	US$	73 969	Feb. 1991	73 969		73 969
					SUB-TOTAL	108 287
TOTAL				384 662 (Pledged but not paid)	.....	4 846 031 (Paid)
GRAND TOTAL						5 230 694

a/ The figures for 1988, 1989 and 1990 refer to the contributions of the Federal Republic of Germany.